

Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 EB-04

AF-04 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-08 NEA-06 RSC-01 VO-03 SCA-01

SR-02 ORM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9000

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 6688

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, OCON, AORG (ECEM)

SUBJ: INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR EUROPEAN MIGRATION
(ICEM) 46TH SESSION ICEM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, NOV
14-15, 1974 AND 38TH SESSION ICEM COUNCIL NOV 18-20, 1974

1. IN ORDER FACILITATE PREPARATIONS FOR SUBJECT CONFERENCES,
MISSION REQUIRES ASAP DEPARTMENT'S POSITION ON VARIOUS AGENDA
ITEMS. IF COMPLETE POSITION PAPER NOT YET AVAILABLE, WE
WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING TELEGRAPHIC ADVICE ON FOLLOWING
ITEMS ALL OF WHICH HAVE BEARING ON AGENDA ITEMS.

2. SECOND REVISION BUDGET FOR 1974 (ICEM DOCUMENT MC/1097):
(A) USG PLEDGES AND PAYMENTS -- PER KELLOGG LETTER OF MARCH
25, 1974, USG PLEDGED \$3,049,000 TOWARD ICEM BUDGET FOR CY
1974 OF WHICH \$1,066,500 FOR ADMINISTRATION AND \$1,982,440
FOR OPERATIONS. RESPECT LATTER AMOUNT, \$18,765 EARMARKED
FOR REPLENISHING CASH RESEVE, 938,855 FOR LATIN AMERICAN
PROGRAM AND \$1,024,820 FOR REFUGEE PROGRAM. TO DATE, MISSION
HAS PAID TO ICEM \$900,000 OF PLEDGE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND
1.5 MILLION FOR OPERATIONS. MISSION REQUESTS AUTHORITY TO
PAY ICEM ASAP \$482,440, REPRESENTING BALANCE OF OUR PLEDGE TO
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OPERATIONAL BUDGET. BELIEVE WE CAN LEAVE OPEN FOR TIME BEING

OUR OUTSTANDING PAYMENT OF \$166,500 TO ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET AND QUESTION OF OUR PAYMENT OF ADDITIONAL \$220,000 TO LATIN AMERICAN PROGRAM (KELLOGG LETTERS DATED JUNE 26 AND AUGUST 20 TO ICEM DIRECTOR REFER).

(B) EROSION OF PROVIDENT FUND DUE TO CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS AND INFLATION -- MISSION RECOMMENDS USG APPROVAL OF ICEM RECOMMENDATIONS OUTLINED PARAS 23 AND 35 OF ICEM DOCUMENT MC/1100.

3. BUDGET FOR 1975:

(A) ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET -- ACCORDING ICEM DOCUMENT MC/1098, ICEM ANTICIPATES RECEIVING FROM USG \$1,199,880 OF \$,600,000 ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET, OR 33.3 PERCENT OF TOTAL. PER KELLOGG LETTER TO ICEM DIRECTOR DATED AUGUST 8, 1974, USG INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT NEW ASSESSMENT SCALE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET EFFECTIVE CY 1975 WITH PROVISIO THAT USG CONTRIBUTION WILL NOT EXCEED 33.3 PERCENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED FROM ALL PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS. IF THIS IS FIRMS USG POSITON, MISSION RECOMMENDS USDEL MAKE THIS POINT A MATTER OF RECORD AT SUBJECT MEETINGS; OTHERWISE, IF USG ALONG WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS APPROVE ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET, AS PRESENTED IN DOCUMENT MC/1098, ICEM ADMINISTRATION WILL CLAIM THAT USG HAS OBLIGATION TO PAY ASSESSMENT AS SET OUT IN THIS DOCUMENT, WHICH WOULD EXCEED BY FAR 33.3 PERCENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ALL PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS.

(B) OPERATION BUDGET -- SINGLE MOST SERIOUS PROBLEM WITH PROPOSED CY 1975 OPERATIONAL BUDGET IS ANTICIPATED DEFICIT OF \$628,000 IN LATING AMERICAN PROGRAM. THIS SHORTFALL RESULTS PRINCIPALLY FROM REDUCED LEVEL OF USG SUPPORT FOR LA PROGRAM TO \$750,000. USDEL NOTIFIED ICEM SCBF OF THIS PLANNED REDUCTION IN SEPTEMBER 1974. REASONS GIVEN BY USDEL AT THAT TIME WERE USG'S OVERALL FIGHT AHAINST INFLATION, RE-ASSESSMENT OF USG'S SUPPORT TO INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS AND RE-ALIGNMENT OF PRIORITIES, GENERAL BUDETARY BELT-TIGHTENING, USG'S BEARING OFDISPROPORTIONATE SHARE OF LA PROGRAM COSTS, AND LIMITED OR NON-EXISTENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROGRAM BY LATIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS. USG'S REDUCED SUPPORT FOR THIS PROGRAM WAS CONFIRMED IN KELLOGG'S LETTER DATED SEPTEMBER 24, 1974 TO ICEM DIRECTOR.

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MISSION BELIEVES IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR USDEL AT SUBJECT MEETINGS TO EXPLAIN ONCE AGAIN REASONS FOR USG'S ACTION THIS REGARD AND AT SAME TIME URGE OTHER MEMBER GOVERNMENTS, ESPECIALLY TH LA COUNTRIES WHICH BENEFIT FROM PROGRAM, TO GIVE IT MORE SUPPORT, OR, FAILING THAT, URGE ICEM ADMINISTRATION TO TAILOR PROGRAM WITHIN AVAILABLE RESOURCES.

SINCE LA PROGRAM LIKELY TO RACE CONTINUING SERIOUS DEFICIT, ESPECIALLY IF USG'S SUPPORT IS REDUCED FURTHER IN 1976, IT MAY ALSO BE APPROPRIATE FOR USDEL TO SUPPORT ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL WORKING GROUP OF EIGHT OT TEN GOVERNMENTS TO RESTUDY LA PROGRAM AND, DEPENDING FEASIBILITY OF CONTINUING PROGRAM IN FUTURE, DEVELOP PLANS FOR PLACING IT ON SOUND REALISTIC BASE.

4. ISSUE OF SOUTH AFRICA (GENEVA 6446) WILL NO-DOUBT ARISE DURING SUBJECT MEETINGS. ICEM DIRECTOR CURRENTLY OF OPINION THAT ICEM'S MIGRANT MOVEMENT PROGRAM TO SOUTH AFRICA WILL TERMINATE AT END CY 1974. HOWEVER, AT THIS STAGE, IT IS NOT CLEAR HOW AND AND BY WHOM MATTER WILL BE RAISED AT SUBJECT MEETINGS. ICEM DIRECTOR HOPEFUL THAT SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION ITSELF WILL SUGGEST DISCONTINUATION OF ICEM ROLE IN PROGRAM IN LIGHT OF RECENT REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON APARTHEID AND OTHER RELATED ACTIONS IN UNITED NATIONS. MISSION RECOMMENDS THAT USDEL NOT RPT NOT GET OUT FRONT ON THIS ISSUE IN ICEM MEETINGS, HOWEVER, NEED INDICATED FOR USDEL TO BE ARMED WITH APPROPRIATE MATERIAL EVENT US INTERVENTION REQUIRED.

IF ICEM'S PROGRAM FOR SOUTH AFRICA TERMINATED, SECTION I OF ICEM BUDGET (NATIONAL MIRGRATION) WOULD BE VIRTUALLY ELIMINTED.

EVENT SOUTH AFRICA CEASES MEMBERSHIP IN ICEM, ORGANIZATION WOULD SUFFER, APART FROM LOSS OF FULL FINANCING OF SOUTH AFRICAN PROGRAM, LOSS OF \$171,000 FOR ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET AND \$32,950 FOR LATIN AMERICAN PROGRAM.

5. COMMENT: ICEM CLEARLY FACING SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES; HOWEVER, DESPITE USG'S ANNOUNCED CUT-BACK IN FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR LA PROGRAM AND PROBLEMS RELATING SOUTH AFRICA, MISSION CONVINCED THAT ICEM'S PROGRAMS FOR CY 1975 COULD BE FULLY F
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FINANCED. PROJECTED DEFICITS IN SECTION I - NATIONAL MIGRATION (11,950) AND SECTION II - REFUGEE MIGRATION (\$108,250) CONSIDERED MANAGEABLE. ANTICIPATED SHORTFALL OF \$628,250 IN SECTION III - LATIN AMERICAN PROGRAM COULD, SUBJECT TO AGREEMENT OF ICEM'S GOVERNING BODIES, BE COVERED THROUGH UTILIZATION OF CASH BALANCE (\$319,795) IN GENERAL ACCOUNT OF MIGRANT LOAND FUND AND THROUGH DRAW-DOWN FROM CAPITAL (2.4 MILLION) HELD BY ICEM FOR SEVERANCE PAY. AS DEPARTMENT PREVIOUSLY SUGGESTED, SEVERFNCE PAY COULD BE LINE ITEM IN ICEM'S ANNUAL BUDGET OBIATING ORGANIZATIONS CURRENT PRACTICE OF ACCUMULATING SO MUCH CAPITAL FOR THIS PURPOSE.

WHILE IT THUS APPEAS THAT ICEM CAN BE SUSTAINED THROUGHOUT CY 1975, THE TIME SEEMS OPPORTUNE TO EFFECT REALISTIC EVALUATION OF ICEM AND DECIDE WHETHER THE ORGANIZATION CAN AND SHOULD BE

MAINTAINED; IF SO, WHAT ITS FUTURE ROLE SHOULD BE, AND HOW ITS ACTIVITIES (ONLY ACTIVITIES REQUESTED BY MEMBER GOVERNMENTS) MIGHT BE SATISFACTORILY FINANCED. APART PROGRAMS RELATING LATER AMERICAN PROGRAM INDICATED IN PARA 3(B) ABOVE, REALISTIC ASSESSMENT OF ICEM'S ROLE IN REFUGEE AREA MIGHT BE USEFUL. FOR EXAMPLE, ICEM'S PROJECTED REFUGEE PROGRAM IN CY 1974 TOTALING 64,000 INCLUDES 36,000 MOVEMENTS TO ISRAEL IN CONNECTION WITH WHICH ICEM HAS NO APPRECIABLE OPERATIONAL ROLE. ICEM'S INVOLVEMENT IN ISRAELI MOVEMENTS IS MERELY A PAPER EXERCISE FOR CHANNELING OF FUNDS WHICH ORIGINATE ALMOST TOTALLY FROM THE US AND ISRAELI GOVERNMENTS.

DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF SMALL US TASK FORCE TO UNDERTAKE IN-DEPTH EVALUATION OF ICEM.

OMB AND INTERESTED CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERS COULD BE MADE AWARE OF SUCH A STUDY AND INFORMED THAT USG'S FUTURE POSTURE VIS-
VIS ICEM WOULD BE BASED ON TASK FORCE'S FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

6. PLEASE ADVISE.DALE

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